

Application Number 10/519,892
Response to the Office Action dated 06/05/2008

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A lancet supplying unit comprising a case having a closed bottom and a closable open top, a lancing member housed in the case, a sensor housed in the case and provided separately from the lancing member, and a supporter detachably supporting each of the lancing member and the sensor in the housing,
wherein the case is temporarily attached to a lancing apparatus for supplying the lancing member and the sensor to the lancing apparatus, and
wherein the lancing member and the sensor remain attached to the lancing apparatus even after the case is detached from the lancing apparatus,
wherein the lancing member includes a needle,
wherein the lancet supplying unit further comprises a cap for covering the needle,
the cap being detachable from the lancing member,
wherein the lancing member is supported by the supporter via the cap, and
wherein the cap is integrally formed on the supporter.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The lancet supplying unit according to claim 1, wherein the sensor is held by a sensor holder, and wherein, when lancing of a skin is performed by utilizing the lancing member, the sensor holder engages the lancing member to control lancing depth in the skin.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The lancet supplying unit according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the lancing member includes a body holding the needle, and

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wherein the cap is integrally formed on the body.

6. (Previously Presented) The lancet supplying unit according to claim 5, wherein a boundary portion between the cap and the body has a structure which causes a stress to be concentrated on the boundary portion more than on other portions of the cap and the body.
7. (Previously Presented) The lancet supplying unit according to claim 6, wherein the boundary portion has a constricted configuration.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Currently Amended) The lancet supplying unit according to claim [[9]] 1, wherein the supporter includes a portion for fitting to a part of the cap to hold the cap in a standing posture.
11. (Cancelled)
12. (Currently Amended) The lancet supplying unit according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the case includes a tubular portion for accommodating the cap together with the lancing member and the sensor.
13. (Currently Amended) The lancet supplying unit according to claim [[12]] 1, further comprising a lid for closing the open ~~end~~ top of the case.
14. (Currently Amended) The lancet supplying unit according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein a direction in which the sensor is detachable from the supporter corresponds to a direction in which the cap is detachable from the lancing member.

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15. (Currently Amended) The lancet supplying unit according to claim [[4]] 1, wherein the sensor is detachably supported by the cap.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The lancet supplying unit according to claim 4, A lancet supplying unit comprising a case having a closed bottom and a closable open top, a lancing member housed in the case, a sensor housed in the case and provided separately from the lancing member, and a supporter detachably supporting each of the lancing member and the sensor in the housing,~~

wherein the case is temporarily attached to a lancing apparatus for supplying the lancing member and the sensor to the lancing apparatus,

wherein the lancing member and the sensor remain attached to the lancing apparatus even after the case is detached from the lancing apparatus,

wherein the lancing member includes a needle,

wherein the lancing supplying unit further comprises a cap for covering the needle, the cap being detachable from the lancing member,

wherein the cap is supported by the supporter while being interposed between the lancing member and the sensor in a first direction in which the needle of the lancing member extends, the cap being movable in a second direction crossing the first direction to avoid overlapping with a holder retaining the sensor in the first direction.

17. (Previously Presented) The lancet supplying unit according to claim 16, wherein the supporter includes an arm portion for supporting the cap, the arm portion being deformable in the second direction.

18. (Previously Presented) The lancet supplying unit according to claim 17, wherein the arm portion is provided by forming a cutout in the supporter.

19. (Previously Presented) The lancet supplying unit according to claim 17, wherein the holder retaining the sensor includes a surface facing the cap, the surface being inclined at least partially to be oriented also in the second direction.

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20-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A lancet supplying unit comprising a lancing member, an auxiliary part which is separate from the lancing member, and a supporter detachably supporting each of the lancing member and the auxiliary part,

wherein the lancing member includes a needle,

wherein the ~~lancet~~ lancet supplying unit further comprises a cap detachable from the lancing member for covering the needle,

wherein the cap is supported by the supporter while being interposed between the lancing member and the auxiliary part in a first direction in which the needle of the lancing member extends, the cap being movable in a second direction crossing the first direction to avoid overlapping with the auxiliary part in the first direction.